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Division of
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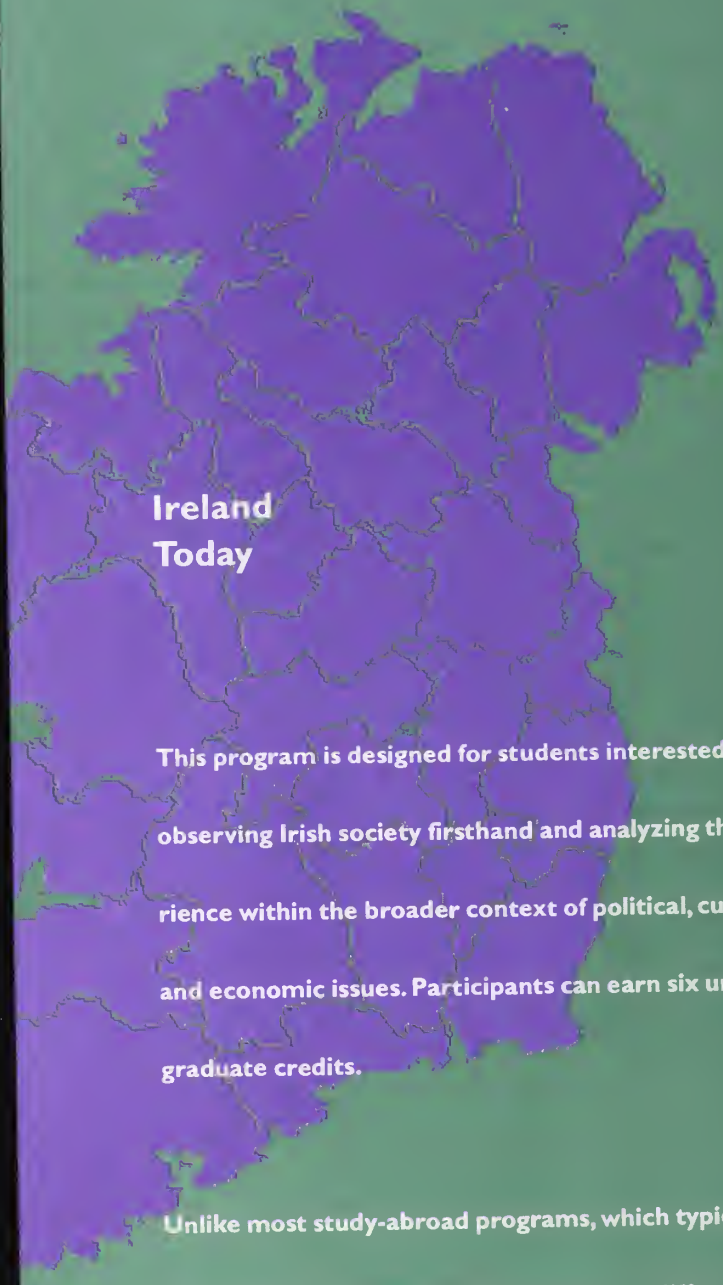
International Programs

announces

Ireland Today

A summer program
of field study in Ireland
examining social,
political, and economic
development

June 15 – July 5, 1995



Ireland Today

This program is designed for students interested in observing Irish society firsthand and analyzing their experience within the broader context of political, cultural, and economic issues. Participants can earn six undergraduate credits.

Unlike most study-abroad programs, which typically consist of regular college courses offered in a different setting, "Ireland Today" provides a dynamic learning experience—a lively blend of course work and field activities.

Meetings and interviews with political, industrial, civic, and union leaders, as well as representatives of social organizations and regional development agencies, form an integral part of the program. In addition, there will be field trips to a variety of cities, factories, historical sites, development parks, and other areas. Through these first-hand observations, students will gain a lively appreciation of the subtle and dynamic interactions that are shaping Ireland today.

The Program

The Republic of Ireland and its neighbor Northern Ireland are particularly revealing "case studies" within the European Community. Each has faced similar problems adjusting to the challenges and opportunities presented by the emerging political and economic union of Europe and the subtle and complex interactions between established historical patterns and new trends.

Some of the topics that will be explored include:

- The historical context that has shaped modern Ireland
- The present sociopolitical situation, with particular attention to sectarian issues
- The new dynamism and the development programs that are transforming the region and casting Ireland as a gateway to the European Community
- The complex and evolving relations between the Republic of Ireland, Northern Ireland, and Britain
- The expanding relationship between Boston and Derry and its place in the larger context of Irish immigration to the US

Under the supervision of Primo Vannicelli, associate professor of political science and director of the International Relations Program at UMass Boston, the program will also involve faculty and staff from Magee College in Derry. While in Ireland, the group will be guided by a faculty member who will be responsible for all academic aspects of the program. A graduate assistant/guide will assist the students during their stay in Ireland and will also serve as tour leader and organizer for all activities in Derry and elsewhere in Ireland.

Upon successful completion of the program, which includes a written report prepared with the assistance of the faculty supervisor, participants will receive six academic credits in political science: PolSci 377C: Ireland Today and PolSci 480: Seminar: Ireland.

Location

The program is based in Derry, a historic and hospitable city on the banks of the River Foyle in Northern Ireland. Originally the site of a sixth-century monastery, Derry was redeveloped as a Protestant plantation by James I of England and later became a thriving commercial and industrial center as well as an important embarkation point for Irish emigration to the United States. Recently voted by the London Civic Trust as one of the ten most livable cities in the U.K., Derry offers a charming base for appreciating Irish culture and society. Magee College in Derry provides the academic home for the program.

During the first part of the program, students will reside at the O'Doherty Centre, a 17th-century house on Inch Island in County Donegal, Republic of Ireland, eight miles from Derry. Daily commutes, with a van and driver/guide assigned to the group full-time, will provide an exciting sense of the two different states and of the different dimensions of daily life in Ireland. For the second part of the program, students will reside in a dormitory at Magee College and will thus have an opportunity to experience the campus and town life more directly.

To complete the experience of life in Ireland, students will also spend several days in Dublin—a visit which will include focused study and meetings as well as sightseeing and other informal opportunities to explore this lively and dynamic city.

Schedule

The program runs from June 15 through July 5. An orientation meeting will be held at UMass Boston prior to departure for Ireland.

Program Fee

The program fee is $1,995. This fee covers all instruction, field trips, housing and some meals, and all local transportation in Ireland, including special trips to Dublin and other cities. The fee does not cover insurance or transportation between the United States and Ireland.

Ireland Today

A summer program of field study in Ireland examining social, political, and economic development

Name _____

Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____

☐ Please send me application materials.

☐ Please call me to discuss the program.

My telephone number is: _____

The best time to call is between _____ and _____

Please indicate am and/or pm.

Clip out this form and return it to:

Division of Continuing Education
University of Massachusetts Boston
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Boston, MA 02125-3393

FAX 617 287-7922

Application Information

All students with an interest in Europe in general, and Ireland in particular, are encouraged to apply. The selection process is designed to assure compatibility between the student's background and the program's goals and demands.

The application deadline is April 14, 1995. Applications received after this date will be considered if space is available.

For more information or to request application materials, please fill out and return the form on the back of this brochure or call the Division of Continuing Education at 617 287-7915.

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